

troit to Baton Rouge, the heart of New York City to the smallest hamlets of our country. It is a music of the people, one that has provided hope and inspiration for generations of Americans.

Gospel music has come to influence singers and composers of all popular forms, including jazz, the blues, and soul music. The rhythm and expressiveness—the very feeling—has become an important part of our culture and a vital part of our heritage.

Our Nation owes a great debt of gratitude to those who preserve and bring to life Gospel music in our churches, in recordings, in concerts, and through the media. It is in our national interest to promote and support Gospel music so that generations to come may enjoy and appreciate it. In so doing, we will gain a greater understanding of the breadth and vitality of the human spirit and its indomitable faith as it is expressed through the beauty of song.

The Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 157, has designated the year of 1994 as "The Year of Gospel Music" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this year.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the year of 1994 as The Year of Gospel Music. I urge all Americans to celebrate Gospel music with appropriate ceremonies and activities and to reflect on the role that this music has in reinvigorating and renewing our souls and our communities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-eighth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and nineteenth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 6753 of November 3, 1994

National Family Caregivers Week, 1994

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The number of Americans aged 65 or older is increasing steadily. In 1992, seniors represented 12.7 percent of the U.S. population—about one in every eight Americans. Americans are living longer, healthier lives than at any other time in our history, yet one-third of older people evaluate their health as only fair or poor. About 6.1 million senior citizens have disabilities that leave them in need of regular care and help with their daily tasks.

When someone we love becomes ill, has an accident, or needs assistance, we can all become caregivers at a moment's notice. Care is usually provided by family members, often wives, daughters, and daughters-in-law, who may sacrifice their own employment opportunities to bring joy and comfort into the lives of loved ones. Selflessly offering their energy and love to those in need, family caregivers have earned our heartfelt gratitude and profound respect.

Caregivers understand how much we need and depend on one another. Indeed, Americans understand that our strength as a Nation has always flowed from the sturdy bonds of family. In recognition of this fact, we all must work harder to ensure that our Nation's caregivers receive the support and assistance they deserve.

The Congress, by Public Law 103-319, has designated November 20, 1994 through November 26, 1994, as "National Family Caregivers Week" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week of November 20-26, 1994, as National Family Caregivers Week and call upon all government agencies and the people of the United States to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this third day of November, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and nineteenth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 6754 of November 4, 1994

National Military Families Recognition Day, 1994

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Military families play an integral role in ensuring the effectiveness of America's Armed Forces. Without fanfare, they selflessly provide behind-the-scenes support to service members, their units, and commands worldwide. Their devotion to their loved ones, to the military, and to their country is unfaltering.

Time and again, military families bravely bid farewell as wives and husbands, children and parents depart for missions in far-off, often hostile areas. Committed to preserving freedom and democracy for all of us, these families provide the continuity and stability essential to the well-being of our soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and the members of our Coast Guard, National Guard, and Reserves.

Military families face abrupt separations, moves to foreign soil, and tours in isolated locations away from friends. As they adjust to conditions around the world, they learn to do without many of the conveniences that most Americans view as basics. They quickly and adeptly transform unfamiliar quarters into welcoming homes, forming bonds of friendship with others in the unit, sharing in their hopes, dreams, and aspirations.

Commanders and other Department of Defense leaders have long recognized the paramount importance of families in the retention and readiness of military members. Indeed, America reaps invaluable benefits from the dedication of military families as they support America's mission to promote democracy and to secure peace.